

5508 Brown Road  
Oxford, OH 45056  
May 18, 2017

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Strong Support for Maintaining Net Neutrality

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for an open and free Internet. I firmly believe that governments regulating the Internet, as well as Internet Services Providers (ISPs), should treat all content equally, regardless of user.

Information is Power. Those who control the [access to] information, hold all the power. Just as my telephone provider should not be able to control who I choose to call; my ISP should not be allowed to control what information and web content I choose to access and search for.

Without Net Neutrality, low-income Americans risk losing access to access to information about education, health care, services, or other information that has always and historically been free and open for anyone to access. Rolling back regulations that current ensure Net Neutrality hurts everyone, but harms vulnerable Americans the most, who may only be able to access the Internet at their local library or school.

Maintaining Net Neutrality preserves citizen's rights to communicate freely. I see the loss of Net Neutrality as a threat to Freedom of Speech. Websites who pay the most should not be allowed to have the loudest voices or the most "hits" in a search return.

I often feel we are currently in an age of "the dumbing down of America" – people are incredibly influenced by what they read online. Critical thinking skills have been lost among younger Americans as funding for science education diminishes. The Internet is pervasive in our daily lives. To allow ISPs to control who can access certain content is to hasten this "dumbing down of America." Researchers will no longer be able to search for content freely and openly. Activists will suffer from the loss of open access to information. Curiosity itself may be diminished as ISPs limit and control who can access what. Voices and creativity will be silenced when ISPs are able to control what content to promote, and who is heard.

The Internet has always been open and the content always free. Let's keep it that way.

Sincerely,

*Jenny Gelber*